

HORWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year 1965

HORWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Dr. J. O. Bennett.

Members—Councillors H. Almond, J.P., E. Dobson, J.P., A. Fernihough, J. Hargreaves, C.C., P. S. Hewitt, J. Leech, J. McBurnie, H. Ratcliffe, W. Rose, E. Toohey, R. Yardley.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:
§ E. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Telephone Leigh 73227/8/9.

Chief Public Health and Meat Inspector:
K. Ratcliffe, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health and Meat Inspector:
W. R. Taylor, Cert. R.S.I.

Clerk:
Mrs. R. Brierley.

§ Also Divisional Medical Officer;

Divisional Health Committee No. 11,
Lancashire County Council:

Divisional School Medical Officer;
Lancashire County Council:



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Public Health Department,
Public Hall,
Horwich

To the Chairman and Members of the
Horwich Urban District Council,

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your information and consideration, the annual report on the health of the District for the year, 1965.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid year population remained at the same figure as last year - 16080. This is 13 more than that determined by the 1961 census.

There was a continuing diminishing trend in the number of live births and an increase in overall deaths. There were no maternal deaths but an increase in still births and infant deaths. Of the latter, four occurred within the first week of life and had little chance of survival due to congenital factors. Deaths in the older age group were mainly from the three main causes - Cancer, diseases of the circulatory system and diseases of the respiratory system.

The incidence of infectious disease calls for no comment but nevertheless, the continuing need to use all the defensive weapons to guard against a possible revival, must never be lost sight of. Immunisation and Vaccination of all new members of a community is a neverending process.

Once again, I have to report that no further progress with the implementation of the Clean Air Act 1956 was achieved.

The need of specially suitable housing for the aged is very much appreciated, and during the year a scheme for the provision of additional warden supervised flatlets was approved. It is proposed that these should occupy a site made available by slum clearance.

A further momentous decision to provide the town with much needed bathing facilities unfortunately received a set back by the Government's deferment of expenditure on capital projects due to the economic crisis.

When this scheme finally reaches fruition, Horwich will be the envy of many of its neighbours insofar as its facilities for swimming pursuits are concerned.

Particular attention was paid to housing and sanitation, water supply and food hygiene and those responsibilities associated with the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act.

The personal health services listed in Section B of this report have again been provided by the Lancashire County Council through its Divisional Health Administration Scheme. For full details of these services I would invite your attention to my report as Divisional Medical Officer.

In conclusion I am appreciative of the interest of members of the Committee and the Chief Officials and their staffs for the ready help and co-operation throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,

E. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres 3,254.

Population - Census 1961 (provisional) 16,067

Population - 1965* 16,080

(*Registrar General's Mid-Year Estimates - 1965)

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1965).

according to Rate Books, 5,821

Rateable Value £416,738

Sum represented by a Penny Rate £1,640

Social Conditions.—No material change.

Vital Statistics.—

(Rates calculated on a population basis of 16,080).

BIRTHS	Males.	Females.	Total
--------	--------	----------	-------

Live Births:

Legitimate	122	110	232
Illegitimate	5	3	8
Total	127	113	240

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000) 14.9

Still Births:

Legitimate	6	1	7
Illegitimate	2	nil	2
Total	8	1	9

Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births) 36.1

Total Births: 249. Males 135. Females 114.

DEATHS

Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	4	3	7

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	29.2
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	29.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ...	16.7
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births) ...	16.7
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ...	52.2

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
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Causes of Infant Deaths.

Cause of Death	under 1 day		1-7 days		1-4 weeks		1-6 months		6-12 months	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Prematurity	1			1						
Rhesus Incompatability		1								
Cerebral Heamorrhage			1							
Accidental Asphyxia							1			
Laryngotraches bronchitis							1			
Bronchiolitis								1		
Total	1	1	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—

The following is a statement showing comparative statistics in respect of years 1960-1965

Year	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infantile Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. registered	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No. registered	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No. registered	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No. of Deaths registered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of Deaths registered	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of Deaths registered	Rate per 1000 live births
1965	240	*14.9	205	*12.7	9	36.1	nil	nil	7	29.2	4	16.7
1964	255	15.9	184	11.6	4	15.4	1	3.86	8	31.4	5	19.6
1963	257	15.8	220	13.5	4	15.3	nil	nil	8	31.1	7	27.2
1962	248	15.3	178	11.0	5	19.8	1	3.95	5	20.2	5	20.2
1961	242	15.0	213	13.2	4	16.3	nil	nil	8	33.1	6	24.8
1960	249	15.7	209	13.2	3	11.0	nil	nil	7	28.1	6	20.1
Ave. 5 yrs 1960-64				12.5				1.56				22.3

* Adjusted birth rate (comparability factor 1.08) = 16.1 per 1000

* Adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.07) = 13.1 per 1000

The following table shows the causes of death at different periods of life during 1965:

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in years								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M	6									4	1	1
	F	1									1		
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M	3							1		1	1	
	F	2									1	1	
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	F	5									2	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	F	4							2		2		
Leukaemia	M												
	F	2						1					1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	11									3	5	3
	F	8								1		4	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	19								1	3	5	10
	F	26									2	10	14
Coronary Disease, Angina	M	23						1			6	6	9
	F	13								1	3	3	7
Hypertension with heart disease	M	1								1			
	F	5									2		3
Other heart disease	M	5									2		3
	F	18									1	8	9
Other circulatory diseases	M	1									1		
	F	4										1	3
Bronchitis	M	11		1							3	5	2
	F	3										2	
Pneumonia	M	4								1		2	2
	F	6		1							2	1	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1									1		
	F	1									1		
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	2									1		
	F									1			
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	1											1
Suicide	M	2										1	
	F	1										1	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	2	2		1							1	2
	F	8	2							2			
All other accidents	M	4		1			1				1		1
	F	2											2
Total all causes	M	96	2	2			1	1	2	4	26	26	32
	F	109	2	1	1			1	2	4	17	34	47

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance Service,
Care of Children - Children Act 1948.

Swinton 4343.

Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council.
Area No. 4.

Area Children's Officer - Mr. K. R. Harding,
Ashfield Park Drive, Standish. Tel. Standish 3147.

Clinics.

1. Ante-natal.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
Tuesday p.m.
2. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis
Immunisation.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
By appointment.
3. Maternity and Child Welfare.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
Wednesday and Thursday p.m.
St. Elizabeth's Mission.
Friday p.m. (1st and 3rd only).
4. Ophthalmic.
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.
By appointment.
5. Orthopædic.
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.
1st Friday each month.
6. Post-natal.
Welfare Centre, Jones Street, Horwich.
Tuesday p.m.
7. School Health and Minor Ailment.
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.
Monday p.m.
8. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic.
Civic Centre, Bolton.
9. Venereal Diseases.
(i) Civic Centre, Bolton.
Males - Mon. to Fri. 9-30 to 12-30 p.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri. 4-30 to 7 p.m.
Females - Tues., Thurs., Sat. 9-30 to 11-30 a.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri. 4-30 to 7 p.m.

- (ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.
 Males - Friday 2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.
 Females - Wednesday 2-0 p.m. to 6-0 p.m.

Urgent Cases:

Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sats. 9 to 11-30 a.m.
 4-30 p.m. to 7-0 p.m.

Convalescence.

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C.
 Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Convalescent Treatment.

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service.

Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the district by Lancs. C.C.

Home Help Service.

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C.
 Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service.

District Nurses are employed in the district by Lancs. C.C.

Hospitals.

Bolton Royal Infirmary; Bolton District General Hospital, Farnworth; Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; and other hospitals situated in the region of the Hospital Board.

Laboratory Facilities.

Regional Hospital Laboratories at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries.

Maternity Homes.

"Haslam," "Havercroft," and "Heaton Grange" Maternity Homes, Bolton, and Bolton District General Hospital.

Midwifery Service.

Domiciliary midwives employed by the Lancs. C.C. practice in the district.

Nursing Homes.

Newlands Nursing Home, Bolton.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council.

Council for Moral Welfare Work.

Moral Welfare Worker for the area:-

Miss A. Rigby,
24, Acresfield,
Bolton. Tel. Bolton 26524.

Welfare Services.

Under arrangements made by Lancs. C.C.
Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange,
Hourigan House, Leigh and Winifred Kettle House,
Westhoughton.

X-ray Facilities.

Available at Bolton Royal Infirmary and the Wigan
Infirmary. Special facilities for chest X-ray at the
Hospital Board's Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—Apart from 30 houses situated in the higher parts of the town all of the dwelling houses in the town are provided with water from public mains.

There were 71 samples of water taken for bacteriological examination. The results of these were as follows:-

Examinations from public supply.

No. taken	No. Satisfactory.	No. Unsatisfactory.
64	63	1

Examinations from private supply.

No. taken	No. Satisfactory.	No. Unsatisfactory.
7	2	5

The unsatisfactory samples taken from the public supply were of the raw water before treatment by filtration and chlorination. On receipt of such results a thorough investigation of the gathering grounds was carried out. All samples taken from public mains proved satisfactory.

The unsatisfactory samples from private supplies proved satisfactory on resampling.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Only extensions to new properties have been made during the year.

Public Cleansing.—During the year the following work was carried out by the Department:-

Tons of refuse collected and disposed of	7,371
No. of dustbins and paper sacks collected	493,060
No. of pail closets emptied	1,768

There are approximately 6,300 dustbins and 400 paper sacks to be collected each week together with 27 pails. The use of paper sacks has proved both useful and economic when used to minimise long carries and at upstairs flats. This system is being continued as new houses are completed.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping on the Red Moss and during the year the overall cost of both collection and disposal was £16,356. This shows an increase on previous years; the cost per ton of refuse being £2 4s. 2d. as against £2 0s. 5d. in 1964 and £1 18s. 11d. in 1963. The approximate cost of each bin emptied remains at about 7d.

The service is staffed by three drivers and eleven bin men working on three vehicles. These vehicles consist of one Karrier Bantam Duo Tip 12/13 cu. yd., one Karrier Gamecock Duo Tip 18 cu. yd. and one Shelvoke and Drewery 10 cu. yd. side loader.

From the beginning of April a Weatherill loading shovel has been in use on the tip and this has been most successful. It has been possible to keep the tip under much more stringent control and tip fires have been minimised.

The cost of this part of the service - included in the figure mentioned above - was £1,354. This is an increase of £1,104 over the previous year when hired machines were used. It cannot be too greatly stressed, however, that the overall gain in efficiency and hygiene far outweighs the increase in cost.

Sanitary Inspections.—During the year the Department received some 900 complaints relating to sanitary matters including refuse removal. Throughout the year 1,408 premises were visited for all purposes and 4,501 inspections were made. The following is a classified statement of these inspections:-

Housing defects and nuisances... ..	554
House letting	299
Drainage	369
Refuse removal and disposal	1313
Moveable dwellings	3
Verminous or dirty premises	32
Infectious diseases	29
Animal boarding establishments	5
Factories	13
Smoke abatement	241
Improvement grants	263
Food preparation premises	50
Slum clearance	149
Bakehouses	3
Ice cream premises	33
Cafes	9
Food shops and food stalls	29
Schools	19
School canteens	25
Meat inspection	355
Shops Act inspections	142
Hotels, Clubs	3
Market	345
Water supplies	93
Offices, shops and railway premises	99
Building sites	2
Keeping of animals	3
Inspection of food other than meat	15
Scrap metal dealers	1
Hospital kitchens	2
Fairground stalls	3

As a result of these inspections 1,082 defects or nuisances were discovered during the year and 1,019 were abated. This latter figure includes a number abated which were discovered in the previous year.

Factories Acts 1937 to 1959.—In accordance with the provisions of Section 128(3) of the Factories Act, 1937, the Medical Officer of Health is required to report specifically on the administration of matters under Parts 1 and 8 of this Act, which are administered by the District Council.

PART I OF THE ACT.
INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	59	143	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	15	32	—	—
Total ...	76	177	—	—

Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective...				1	
(c) Not separate for sexes ...					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..					
Total .				1	

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.—There were six outworkers notified as being employed in the district and all were visited during the year.

Shops.—Shops were inspected under the Shops Act and minor infringements were remedied. 142 inspections were carried out for this purpose.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.—This Act came into force on the 1st July, 1964 and placed on local authorities the responsibility for the enforcement of conditions in offices and shops. These conditions bring this class of premises into line with factories. The following tables show the progress made in the inspection of these premises up to the 31st December, 1965:-

Registration and General Inspections.

Class of premises.	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of premises registered at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	4	14	6
Retail Shops	—	96	41
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	3	3
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens ...	—	4	—
Fuel storage depots	—	1	—
Totals	4	118	46

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act - 99.

During the course of these inspections the following contraventions were discovered and notified to the persons responsible and in most cases action is being taken to remedy the defects:-

Type of contravention		No. found
Sec. 4.	Cleanliness	2
„ 6.	Temperature	24
„ 7.	Ventilation	3
„ 9.	Sanitary conveniences	4
„ 10.	Washing facilities	2
„ 13.	Sitting facilities	2
„ 14.	Seats (sedentary workers)	1
„ 15.	Eating facilities	8
„ 24.	First Aid requirements	8
Total		54

There was one accident reported concerning a retail shop. On investigating it was found necessary to offer informal advice in order to prevent a recurrence.

Camping sites—Two sites situated in the Heather Hall district have been in existence for many years and have not been subject to Town Planning approval. One site containing a converted tramcar and a chalet has been reduced to the chalet after informal action by the department. The owner of the remaining building has also been approached with a view to its removal. The second site contains several “week-end” chalets.

Smoke Abatement.—Two stations have continued the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. These stations are situated as follows:-

No. 1—Public Health Department, Council Offices, Lee Lane.

No. 2—Co-operative Society Grocery Department, Chorley New Road/Brindley Street.

The following table gives the average daily readings for both stations during 1965. The measurements are in microgrammes which is the small particle remaining suspended in the air and which is capable of being inhaled. The larger, heavier particles generally fall to the ground or are removed before reaching the lungs. Unfortunately the stations were not operating for the first three months.

		Daily Average					
(a) Smoke particles (microgrammes per cu. metre)		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
	Station No. 1	—	—	—	72	95	95
	Station No. 2	—	—	—	—	152	152
		July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	Station No. 1	133	116	139	280	212	193
	Station No. 2	130	79	147	268	217	224

(b) Sulphur Dioxide (microgrammes per cu. metre)		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
	Station No. 1	—	—	—	286	143	143
	Station No. 2	—	—	—	—	148	148
		July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	Station No. 1	85	114	139	136	190	192
	Station No. 2	87	120	159	178	224	167

Observations have been kept on factory chimneys and visits made to factories when managements have been kept informed of their responsibilities under the Clean Air Act.

Offensive Trades.—No offensive trade is carried on in the district.

Common Lodging Houses.—None registered.

Houses Let in Lodgings.—None Registered.

Swimming Baths and Pools.—There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools in the district, although plans have been approved for the construction of a modern swimming pool which was scheduled to be completed in 1966/67. Owing to the Government's financial restrictions the commencement of this work has been postponed.

Disinfestation.—12 houses found to be infested by cock-roaches were treated during the year. These insects continue to be quite numerous in the older terraced property although the continuing modernisation of these houses by the replacement of flagged floors and obsolete fireranges with floors of impervious material and modern fireplaces is helping to reduce the number of houses infested.

Disinfestation when carried out for bugs and fleas is by spraying with an insecticide having a D.D.T. residual and a pybuthrin base for cockroaches and similar insects. It has been generally found that D.D.T. does not prove very effective in treating for cockroaches and an insecticide containing pybuthrin has been more successful. No premises were found to be infested with bedbugs or fleas during the year.

Schools.—The standard of washing and drinking facilities is very satisfactory and at the majority of the schools meals are prepared on the premises in modern, well equipped and hygienic kitchens. At the schools where kitchens are not available meals are brought in from a central kitchen.

The general condition of buildings and equipment, including sanitary conveniences, is good although at the older schools the latter are situated at the bottom of the school yard. During the year the Education Committee was requested to consider the resiting of these so as to make them within or accessible from within the school building.

Rag, Flock, and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.—No premises have been registered under the Act.

Rodent Control.—All complaints have been investigated by the Rodent Operator and in some instances by the Public Health Inspector. The following table shows the work carried out in treating surface infestations:-

	Type of property.		
	Non Agricultural Dwellinghouses	Other	Agricultural
No. of properties inspected	779	233	5
Total inspections inc. re-inspections	1148	584	6
No. of properties inspected found to be infested by Rats	83	2	—
Mice	19	14	—
No. of infested properties treated	102	14	—
Total treatments (inc. re-treatments)	110	14	—

In addition infested sections of the town's sewers were treated and several treatments were carried out at the refuse tip.

SECTION D.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—A constant vigilance has been kept on the town's milk supply.

Ice Cream.—There are 2 persons registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream and 60 premises registered for the sale of ice cream under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1939.

These premises have been regularly inspected and are kept in a satisfactory condition. During the year 23 samples were taken. In the case of unsatisfactory samples premises and equipment were checked and further samples taken.

Food Hygiene.—The total number of inspections during the year was 637 which included inspections of vehicles carrying food. Generally conditions were found to be good and it was not found necessary to institute proceedings, it being sufficient to draw attention to contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations and to follow this up with further visits.

The following tables show the number of premises (by type) selling food in the district together with those registered under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act:-

(a) Number of food shops.

Type of business.	No.
General grocers	56
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, poultry, etc.)	14
Fishmongers	1
Meat Shops	19
Bakers and confectioners	18
Fried fish shops	14
Sweet shops (including ice cream and minerals)	26
Licensed premises, clubs, cafes, snack bars and catering establishments	41
others	14

(b) Food premises registered (excluding dairies).

Type of business	No. registered	No. of inspections
Fish, fruit and vegetables	2	119
Ice Cream	60	
Preserved meats	21	
Preserved fish	14	

Food Poisoning.—No cases of food poisoning were notified but during the course of routine investigations specimens from six cases were forwarded for pathological reports. One of these proved to be positive.

Food Condemned.—The following tinned meat and other foods were condemned as being unfit for human consumption:-

Tinned vegetables	29 lbs.
Tinned fruit	22 lbs.
Tinned meats	38 lbs.
Tinned ham	100 lbs.
Tinned tomatoes	2 lbs.
Fresh meat	18 lbs.
Sweets	50 lbs.

The forementioned condemned food was disposed of by controlled tipping.

Shell Fish.—There are no shell fish beds or layings in the district.

Markets.—There is one covered market which is open each Friday. There were 94 stalls regularly occupied throughout the year. New sanitary and washing facilities were completed and opened during the year and stalls used for cooked meats and dairy produce were moved so as to be adjacent to these facilities. The remaining food stalls are to be regrouped during the coming year.

Slaughter of Animals.—There is one privately owned slaughterhouse in the district which conforms to the Slaughterhouse Construction Regulations. All meat inspected at this slaughterhouse has been marked in accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 and one hundred per cent inspection has been maintained.

In order to maintain this it has been necessary for inspections to be carried out on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays.

The following tables show the number of animals killed and inspected together with details of the diseases found:-

Table 1—Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed (if known)	17	513	3	1150	2	—
No. inspected	17	513	3	1150	2	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	—	5	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	270	—	280	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	23.5%	52.9%	—	25%	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcass condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

It is of particular interest to note that for the third year running no animal was found to be infected with tuberculosis.

During the course of these inspections 3,026 lbs. of meat and offals were condemned.

SECTION E.

HOUSING.

Since the completion of the Council's first eight year slum clearance programme ended in 1963 unfit houses have been dealt with sporadically. This has resulted in seven houses being closed during the year and the families rehoused by the Council.

The following items show in detail the work carried out during the year under review:-

(a) Inspection of dwelling houses—

No. of dwelling houses inspected for defects	1058
No. of inspections made	1903
No. of dwelling houses inspected found to have defects	548
No. of dwelling houses, including those found to be defective prior to 1965, where defects were remedied	501

(b) Slum Clearance—

No. of houses represented in Clearance Areas	4
No. of houses demolished after inclusion in Clearance Areas	4
No. of houses demolished as a result of action under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1937	nil
No. of houses closed under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1957	2
No. of families displaced and rehoused by the Council as a result of closure	3

Improvement of older houses.—The following tables show the extent of this work during 1965.

(a) Improvement Grants—

No. of applications received.		No. of applications approved.		No. of houses Improved.	
Owner Occupier	Tenanted	Owner Occupier	Tenanted	Owner Occupier	Tenanted
4	—	nil	—	—	3

(b) Standard Grants—

No. applications received		No. applications approved		No. houses improved		Amenities provided				
Owner Occupier	Tenanted	Owner Occupier	Tenanted	Owner Occupier	Tenanted	Fixed bath	Wash-hand basin	Hot water supply	Inside W.C.	Food Store
50	9	50	9	41	10	27	41	28	27	39

The result of these works together with that carried out in previous years is the modernisation of 170 houses with a further 49 applications approved but where the work has not yet been completed. Again this cannot be considered a satisfactory response to the legislation on this subject although this is not peculiar to this Authority who have made every effort to assist householders in the pursuance of this scheme.

No action has yet been taken under the legislation contained in the 1964 Housing Act whereby local authorities may require owners to take advantage of Improvement Grants.

House Building.—A total of 58 houses were completed by private builders during the year.

House Letting.—At the 31st December, 1965 there were 561 applicants on the Council's housing list, which is the same as in the previous year. The number was made up as follows:-

Applicants living in rooms 93

Applicants overcrowded in separate accommodation
(by rehousing standards) 43

Applicants living out of Horwich 80

Miscellaneous applicants 345

Included in the miscellaneous category are 143 applicants for old persons dwellings and of the total number of applicants 157 are owner occupiers.

The Council have to date accommodated old people in 127 flats and bungalows which are so situated as to be satisfactory for this class of applicant.

For old people who are in need of some care and attention a warden supervised block of 34 bungalows has been provided by the Council in collaboration with the County Council. It is proposed to commence building a block of similar flats to provide more of this type of accommodation during 1966.

SECTION F.**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Diphtheria.—There were no cases notified.

Encephalitis.—No case was reported.

Erysipelas.—1 case was reported.

Malaria.—No case reported.

Measles.—200 cases were reported as against 39 in the previous year.

Meningococal Infection.—No case reported.

Paratyphoid Fever. No case reported.

Pneumonia.—There were 3 cases reported.

Poliomyelitis.—No case occurred.

Scarlet Fever.—No case was reported.

Smallpox (Variola).—No case occurred.

Tuberculosis.—There were 2 new pulmonary cases notified and no deaths from tuberculosis occurred during the year.

Typhoid Fever.—No case.

Whooping Cough.—1 case was reported.

